

Data Collection, Information Sharing and Program Descriptions

A project formerly known as the “Information Clearinghouse”

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Slide #1 The Concept:

- Web based system
- Facilitate information sharing
- Reduce duplication of effort
- Identify what projects work
- Maintain institutional knowledge
- Local government feedback
- Recommendation from JLARC response group
- Ecology’s management has approved development.

Slide #2 Goals of the project

- To have one web-based reporting and interactive database for local governments and agency staff to enter information about solid waste related programs and resources (CPG and non-CPG funded).
- To provide a searchable electronic library of solid waste related programs and services for local governments and agency staff.
- To facilitate learning, document successes, reduce duplication, conserve resources and be more effective, helping to guide future strategies.

Slide #3 Key Users of the System

- Local Solid and Hazardous Waste Staff
- Local Health Departments
- Ecology staff
- Citizens
- Decision makers (Commissioners, Legislators, SWACs, local government and Ecology management)
- Solid Waste Policy Forum

Slide #4 Types of information the system may house

- County profile information
- Project descriptions, results and contacts
- Sample contracts, ordinances, RFP, reports
- Brochures and other outreach materials for use by others
- Additional sources of information (links)
- Calendar of events
- Bulletin Board

Slide #5 Planning and Design

- Complex system with a lot of users
- Want to get input from as many users as possible
- We need to meet several needs
- Spend sufficient time planning to have a useful product
- Estimated time of rollout: December 2005

Slide #6 How can you help us develop a system that meets your needs?

- Be a representative interested in participating on the planning and design committee.
- Provide expertise for specific issues.
- Participate in critical points in the planning process. (We will be providing updates at Recycling Coordinator, Solid Waste Policy Forum, State SWAC, Jurisdictional Health Department meetings.)
- Contact Shelly with suggestions

Slide #7 Any ideas you want to share today?

- Is there any other information you would like to see in this system?
- Is there anything you want the planning committee to consider in the process?
- Got any name ideas?

Slide #8 You can help!

- Let me know if you would like to be on the planning committee or serve as an advisor during this process.
- Contact:

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We Want Your Feedback!

On a project currently known as the “The Information Clearinghouse”

Background:

Have you ever thought, “It would be nice to easily research existing programs and borrow tools and resources developed by others” or “What are other communities doing to address X issue and are they seeing success with that approach?”

Over the years many strategies have been deployed to address solid waste issues around Washington, yet this institutional knowledge is not in one, easily accessible location. Ecology heard from several local governments and the Joint Legislative and Audit Review committee that the State needs to collect and maintain information that profiles existing county and city programs, allows sharing of tools and resources developed through CPG and non-CPG funded projects, and facilitate sharing of success and failure stories to help everyone strengthen their own programs.

Ecology’s management and staff would like to address this need through the development of a on-line system currently referred to as the Information Clearinghouse (We are on the hunt for a more comprehensive name) Shelly McClure, Sustainability Specialist for Southwest Regional office, was designated as the project lead and has gained approval to utilize Ecology’s Information Technology staff to develop the system in-house (but we are going to need your help throughout the process). A planning committee was formed and a scope of work and timeline developed. The main audience and target user of this system is local government solid waste staff, hazardous waste and health department staff, Ecology management and staff, and policy decision makers. The general public will be able to access information as well.

The project goals are:

- To have one reporting and interactive database for agency staff and local governments to enter information about CPG funded and non-CPG funded solid waste related programs and resources.
- To provide a searchable electronic library of solid waste related programs and services for agency staff and stakeholders.
- To facilitate learning, document success or programs, reduce duplication, conserve resources, and be more effective helping to inform future strategies.
- Gain feedback from local government user groups to ensure it contains valuable information that is useful to local governments.

Timeline:

5/04	Gained approval to develop
6/04-5/05	Planning
5/05-10/05	Coding, Testing and Debugging
10/05-12/05	Build Data in system
January 2006	System Rollout

What we need from you?

Attached is a “Context Diagram”, used for the first step of communicating scope to the Information Technology staff developing the system. In it we identify “User groups” and general “Transactions” they will have with the System. The planning committee will use this to begin detailing each “transaction”.

We need your feedback!

1. Have we missed any user group or transaction you would like to see this system incorporate?
2. Is there anything you think the planning committee should consider as it begins detailing this project?
3. What is the best way to get local government feedback for this project?
 - a. Have local government representatives on the planning committee (2 meetings/month for 1 year). If so, would you be interested in participating.
 - b. Have occasional Westside/Eastside meetings for updates and comments.

Who are the User groups?

Policy Decision Makers <i>includes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Ecology Program Management Team❖ Local Managers❖ SWAC (State and Local)❖ Commissioners❖ Policy Forum❖ Summit❖ Joint Legislative and Audit Review Committee❖ Legislators❖ Ecology’s Grant Officers	Technical Experts <i>includes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Local Governments (City and County)❖ Health Department staff❖ Recycling educators (Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste)❖ Moderate Risk Waste staff
Communicators <i>includes:</i> <i>Ecology</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Hotline Staff❖ Data staff (Annual report, Recycling rate, etc.)❖ Public information/outreach coordinators	Information Seekers <i>includes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Citizen groups❖ Non-profits❖ Public❖ WSRA❖ Other States❖ “Communicators”❖ “Policy decision makers”❖ “Technical experts”❖ Solid Waste Planners❖ Grant Officers